

## Commission on Sustainability Meeting Report

**Date:** Tuesday March 25, 2008

**Subject:** Sustainability Commission – General Meeting

**Attendees:** Davis Bookhart, Cheryl Casciani, John Ciekot, David Dunphy, Ray Ehrlich, Lynn Heller, Brian Knight, Keith Losoya, Patrick McMahon, Ruth Ann Norton, John Quinn, John Ruppert, Madeleine Shea, Tonya Simmons, Ali Smith, Scot Spencer, Alyson Taylor, Mary Washington, Beth Strommen, Sarah Zaleski, Amy Burch

**Discussion:** The informal meeting was spent introducing and discussing draft versions of Baltimore's sustainability definition, Plan framework, and Plan timeline. Working group structures were also discussed, and Commissioners stated their work group preferences.

**Issues:**

- The proposed definition's phrasing "conducting ourselves" could potentially be made more illustrative (e.g. "as citizens of Baltimore"). Editing suggestions included either inserting "as citizens of Baltimore" or deleting the introductory phrase and simply beginning with "meeting the environmental...".
- The proposed Plan framework was generally well-received. Suggestions included inserting a linkages column to illustrate overlapping issues shared by multiple resource areas and decoupling air from the energy category. The importance of collaboration and integration between all resource areas was reiterated. The importance of including education and outreach was also raised.
- Discussion was had about how to best integrate the Environmental Justice throughout the Plan without marginalizing its importance. The need for a working definition for Environmental Justice was also raised.
- A suggestion was made that the Commission adopt a set of guiding principles for the Plan's creation.

**To Do:**

1. Sarah Zaleski
  - Incorporate meeting feedback and comments into proposed Sustainability definition and Plan framework
  - Send Commissioners examples of other city sustainability plans
  - Create online workspace for Commission to share documents, calendars, comments, etc.
2. Commissioners
  - Send to Sarah the following
    - Names and contact information for people you would like to see serve on any of the working groups
    - Existing organizations and programs that link into one or more of the areas addressed in the Plan framework
    - Names and deadlines of publications that would be effective vehicles for public outreach in the Plan process
    - Electronic file of a photo of yourself (preferably just a head shot)

**Upcoming Events**

- Wednesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> 5:30pm Swearing in ceremony at City Hall

- Tuesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> 4pm Next Sustainability Commission meeting in Department of Planning Boardroom